

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled Claim 18. All other claims remain unchanged.

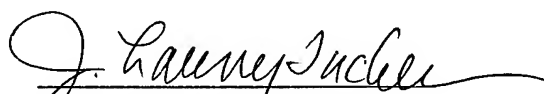
Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-14, 16, and 17 have been rejected as unpatentable over U.S. 5,919,601 (Nguyen et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 1003/0113655 (Hayakawa et al.) and U.S. Patent 6,803,167 (Patel et al.).

While this rejection is traversed on the merits, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 18 in order to expedite prosecution. As admitted by the Office Action, Nguyen et al. does not teach or suggest the imaging energy now recited in Claim 1 as well as in independent Claim 32 that has been allowed. Thus, the unpatentability rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested. A prompt and favorable action by the examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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